

Annual Summary of Activity Academic Year 2003-2004

The following report outlines and discusses major themes that resulted from the presentations, discussions, and achievements of the Program Review and Assessment Committee (PRAC) and its members during the 2003-2004 academic year. PRAC continued to meet monthly and provide guidance, feedback, and support as the schools at IUPUI worked to advance their assessment activities.

THEME ONE: Building on the work done for the 2003 Accreditation Review by continuing to involve faculty, staff, and students in assessment.

This goal grew out of our desire to keep up the momentum generated by the NCA accreditation review, and we fulfilled it in a number of ways.

- We had various reports for the committee itself about successes, challenges, and questions that have come up in specific schools and departments regarding assessment.

- We encouraged schools and departments to keep thinking about their program reviews by asking them to reflect and report on what has happened since their last reviews.

- We have helped to develop the ePortfolio as an effective and usable method for assessment that will involve all segments of the campus community as well as, in its usefulness, connecting the campus with the larger community.

- In our discussions of the Principles of Undergraduate Learning (PULs) and how and when they should be updated, we have contributed to ongoing discussions that are open to all segments of the community. This discussion is flowing in lots of channels around the campus.

- As a body, we form a group of experts in various areas of assessment, and we have made this expertise available in various ways. An excellent example is Charlie Yokomoto's work both in and outside his own school.

THEME TWO: By both direct and indirect advocacy, increasing the rewards and incentives for those who engage in assessment:

- the Grants subcommittee has worked to revise the PRAC grants structure to make it more accessible for applicants, and we now have a structure that is responsive to concerns of applicants, thanks to Erdogan Sener, chair of this subcommittee.

- Nancy Chism talked with us about faculty development for assessment and about rewards and recognition for faculty work on assessment. This was followed by a productive discussion based

on Chism's presentation and on information provided to the Executive Committee by Richard Turner.

--Through both of these activities, we have collected information about the rewards and incentives structure on campus and have begun to create a network of awareness not only of assessment in general but also of the work of PRAC in particular.

THEME THREE: Building a campus infrastructure to support assessment:

--We have formed closer connections between PRAC and the Faculty Council, specifically through the creation of a liaison position.

--Through presentations by IMIR and others, we have also fostered both awareness of the resources available to faculty and administrators and collaboration between academic and administrative units.

--We have established a productive connection with the Indiana Department of Education, through our hosting of Mary Wilhelmus, an aide to Superintendent of Instruction, Suellen Reed, and we have promoted coordination and collaboration that will help IUPUI take advantage of assessment work done in the K-12 sector.

THEME FOUR: Enhancement of Annual Reports

The school-wide annual reports provide an important tool for improving the assessment of student learning, and schools were given additional flexibility for providing this year's annual reports. Possible formats included completing the previously agreed upon matrix, adding a brief history of assessment to the report, or simply reporting on the impact of changes made on the basis of assessment, referring in the report to goals and strategies included in prior years' reports.

--The committee continued discussion of reporting of student learning outcomes.

--The PRAC Steering Committee reviewed the annual reports submitted and offered guidance to schools.

THEME FIVE: Identification and evaluation of performance Indicators:

--The Performance Indicators subcommittee continued the work of identifying performance indicators and using these to assess work on campus in a range of areas relating to teaching and learning. Susan Kahn provided leadership for this group.

THEME SIX: Grant Guidelines, Reports, and Awards

The Subcommittee on Grant Proposals reviews proposals and makes recommendations to the full committee and reviews the grant award process.

- The subcommittee undertook a major revision of the grant process.
- The subcommittee reviewed ten proposals.
- PRAC received two reports

Reports Received:

- Margaret Adamek (School of Social Work) "Examining the Role of Doctoral Students as Field Liaisons."
- Kate Thedwell and Maureen Minielli (Department of Communication Studies, School of Liberal Arts) "Improving Student and Instructor assessment in the R110 Gateway Course."

Grants Awarded:

Elaine Cooney & Kenneth Reid , Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology, School of Engineering and Technology	Assessing Student Civility	\$2,500
Randi L. Stocker, Connie J. Rowles and Delores J. Hoyt , IUPUI Capstone Faculty Learning Community	Content Analysis of IUPUI Capstone Courses	\$2,500
Pamela R. Jeffries, Donna Boland and Sharon McAdams , Adult Health Department, School of Nursing	The Use of Simulations to Provide Experiential Learning in Nursing Education	\$2,500
Charlie Feldhaus , Department of Organizational Leadership and Supervision, School of Engineering and Technology	Assessment Guidelines for OLS Adjunct Faculty	\$2,500

THEME SEVEN: Disseminating Results of Assessment

- we identified and used a range of venues to disseminate information, many of which have been detailed above.
- In addition, we contributed to a series of (largely) web based reports, ranging from PRAC minutes to Institutional Portfolio reports.
- Through individual PRAC members working with their schools on Annual Reports, we have made our knowledge and skills available to the campus as a whole.